Applicant: Masaharu Nagai et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-0171001 / US6695

Serial No.: 10/694,986 Filed: October 29, 2003

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REMARKS

Claims 2, 6, 10, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37 are pending in this application, with claim 2 being independent. Claims 1, 5, 9, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 38-53 have been cancelled. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 2, 6, 10, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37.

Claims 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51 and 53 have been objected to for being substantial duplicates of claims 2, 6, 10, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37. Applicants have cancelled claims 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51 and 53, rendering this objection moot.

Claims 1, 9, 20, 24, 32, 36, 38, 42, 44, 46, 50 and 52 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Parks (U.S. Patent No. 4,646,424) in view of Hallock (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0151156). Claims 5 and 40 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Parks in view of Hallock and Ho (U.S. Patent No. 6,645,851). Claims 28 and 48 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Parks in view of Hallock and Kathono (U.S. Patent No. 4,673,808).

Applicants have cancelled all of the rejected claims, rendering these rejections moot. Accordingly, applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance.

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No fees are believed due in connection with this filing. However, if any fees or refunds are due, please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1-7-10 / Roberto J. Devoto /

Roberto J. Devoto Reg. No. 55,108

Fish & Richardson P.C. 1425 K Street, N.W. 11th Floor Washington, DC 20005-3500 Telephone: (202) 783-5070

Facsimile: (877) 769-7945

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